

REMARKS

Claims 4, 6, 13, 14, 17, 21-25, 30, 31, 35, 36, 40-42, 44, 61-64, and 69-72 are pending, with claims 17, 21-25, and 61-64 being independent.

Claim 4 stands objected to for a lack of antecedent basis. Applicants have amended claim 4 to address this objection and, accordingly, request withdrawal of the objection.

Claims 4, 6, 17, 21-25, 30, 31, 35, 36, and 40-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph due to the recitation in claims 17 and 21-25 of sealing over the liquid crystal material. Applicants have amended independent claims 17 and 21-25 to recite that the sealing material seals around the liquid crystal material, as shown in Figs. 1 and 9. For at least this reason, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the § 112 rejection.

Claims 4, 6, 13, 14, 17, 21-25, 30, 31, 35, 36, 40-42, and 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sawatsubashi et al. (5,148,301). Applicants have amended independent claims 17 and 21-25 to obviate this rejection.

Amended claims 17 and 21-25 recite an active matrix liquid crystal display (claim 17 and 21-23) and a method of fabricating an active matrix liquid crystal display (claim 24-25) that include, among other features, a sealing material sealing around the liquid crystal material and provided between the first substrate and the counter substrate, a driver TFT provided over the first substrate, and a control circuit having a control circuit chip provided under and in contact with the sealing material, where the control circuit is provided over the first substrate for controlling the driver TFT.

Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection because Sawatsubashi fails to describe or suggest an active liquid crystal display or a method of fabricating an active matrix liquid crystal display that includes a control circuit having a control circuit chip provided under and in contact with the sealing material, where the control circuit is provided over the first substrate for controlling the driver TFT.

As acknowledged in the Office Action, Sawatsubashi describes an active matrix liquid crystal display that includes a plurality of pixel TFTs (104) arranged in rows and columns over a substrate (101) and arranged in a matrix. Sawatsubashi also describes a driving circuit for

controlling the pixel TFTs (104). However, Sawatsubashi fails to describe or suggest a driver TFT that is controlled by a control circuit that is over and in contact with the sealing material. In particular, although Sawatsubashi describes a driving circuit for controlling the pixel TFTs (104), Sawatsubashi fails to describe a separate driver TFT and a separate control circuit for controlling the driver TFT, as recited in amended claims 17 and 21-25.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection of amended claims 17 and 21-25 and their dependent claims 4, 6, 13, 14, 30, 31, 35, 36, 40-42, and 44.

Claims 61-64 and 69-72 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants' Admitted Prior Art (APA) in view of Inoue et al. (5,854,664), McClelland et al. (4,695,490), Sasaki et al. (4,494,825), or Kamoi et al. (JP 61029821A). Applicants have amended independent claims 61-64 to obviate this rejection.

As amended, claims 61-64 recite a semiconductor device that includes, among other features, a nonconductive material (claims 61 and 63) or a weakly conductive material (claims 62 and 64) that is applied to three sides of the first substrate and three sides of the counter substrate and is not applied to one side of the first substrate and to one side of the counter substrate. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection because the APA, Inoue, McClelland, Sasaki, and Kamoi, either alone or in combination, fail to describe or suggest these features.

As acknowledged in the Office Action, APA fails to disclose or suggest a nonconductive material (claims 61 and 63) or weakly conductive material (claims 62 and 64) applied to a side edge of counter substrate and a side edge of a first substrate. Moreover, APA fails to disclose or suggest nonconductive or weakly conductive material applied to three sides of the first substrate and three sides of the counter substrate, as recited in amended claims 61-64. Inoue, McClelland, Sasaki, and Kamoi fail to remedy the APA shortcomings, as none of these references describes or suggests a nonconductive or weakly conductive material applied to three sides of the first substrate and three sides of the counter substrate.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection of claims 61-64 and their dependent claims 69-72.

Claims 4, 6, 13, 14, 17, 21-25, 30, 31, 35, 36, 40-42, 44, 61-64, and 69-72 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over the claims of Koyama et al. (6,246,454) in view of Inoue, McClelland, Sasaki, or Kamoi. Applicants have amended the independent claims to obviate this rejection.

Amended claims 17 and 21-25 recite an active matrix liquid crystal display (claims 17 and 21-23) and a method of fabricating an active matrix liquid crystal display (claims 24 and 25) that include, among other features, a sealing material sealing around the liquid crystal material. The relied upon claims of Koyama do not recite a sealing material sealing around the liquid crystal material. Thus, claims 17 and 21-25 are patentably distinct over the relied-upon claims of Koyama. Further, neither Inoue, McClelland, Sasaki, nor Kamoi remedies the failure of the claims of Koyama to describe or suggest a sealing material sealing around the liquid crystal material.

Amended claims 61-64 recite a semiconductor device that includes, among other features, a nonconductive material (claims 61 and 63) or a weakly conductive material (claims 62 and 64) that is applied to three sides of the first substrate and three sides of the counter substrate and not applied to one side of the first substrate and not applied to one side of the counter substrate. As acknowledged in the Office Action, the claims of Koyama do not recite certain features of claims 61-64, specifically, a nonconductive or weakly conductive material applied to the side edge of the first substrate or the side edge of the counter substrate. Further, Inoue, McClelland, Sasaki, and Kamoi do not describe or suggest a nonconductive material or a weakly conductive material applied to three sides of the first substrate and three sides of the counter substrate and not applied to one side of the first substrate and one side of the counter substrate.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the double-patenting rejection of claims 17, 21-25, and 61-64, and claims 4, 6, 13, 14, 30, 31, 35, 36, 40-42, 44, and 69-72.

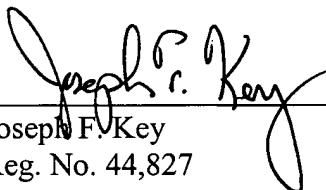
Applicant : Jun Koyama, et al.  
Serial No. : 08/770,792  
Filed : December 19, 1996  
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Attorney's Docket No.: 07977-105001 / US3189

Enclosed is a \$420.00 check for the Petition for Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 01/09/2004

  
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